FASHION'S 'IT' BOY HAS A PHILLY TIE

PAGE 21

Can you SOLVE this?

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + (r-q)S\frac{\partial f}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2} = rf$$

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Wednesday, April 2, 2014 www.metro.us

SWEET SAKURA

PAGE 06

Julia Epps, 4, wears a kimono as the 2014 Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival kicked off at the Shofuso Japanese house and garden in Fairmount Park. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Charlotte Gainsbourg gets dirty PAGE 13

Upscale home design for the masses PAGE 19

Tatt-le tale: Ink attack leaves victim marked

Permanent damage. Four men are suspected of tattooing obscene words and images on their housemate, police said. **Not his idea.** The 52-year-old said he was physically restrained while they wielded the tattoo gun. PAGE 04

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1 NEWS

Local tweet

"Blasting do u wanna build a snow man in Philly is not a good idea. I jus got one too many stares"

Wow. Just, wow, @devonpierangeli.

New resource

Metro US launches special Metro Lawyer Directory

Metro US is proud to announce a new Metro Lawyer Directory appearing both in print and online at www.metro.us. The Metro Lawyer Directory is a quarterly section which will feature lawyer profiles as well as pictures to help Metro's readership of young, affluent urbanites find the local lawyer they might need. The first directory will be published April 24. If you're a lawyer and interested in being featured in this special opportunity, send an email to PHILLYlawyer@metro.us.

NAACP prez breaks silence on scandal

Denial. The chapter's embattled president was interviewed about finances.

Philadelphia NAACP chapter president Jerome Mondesire denied any intentional wrongdoing in the handling of the NAACP's finances during a radio interview Tuesday, but attributed mistakes in the handling of financial paperwork to "human error."

"I will admit human error. It's not something I'm proud of," Mondesire said on the "Wake up with WURD" show. "The pressures of running the NAACP and other stuff, I haven't always filed the proper paperwork."

Mondesire faced tough questioning from callers and hosts during the show.

When asked point-blank if it was illegal to deposit a $10,000 check for the NAACP to the Next Generation CDC, Mondesire said, "It may not have been the smartest thing to do, but it certainly was not illegal."

By the numbers

$10K

The amount of the check

Mondesire said that the Next Generation CDC was created as the development arm of the local NAACP chapter, and was also the only organization allowed to pay bills on a building used by the NAACP. He also said it was normal for the NAACP's annual gala fundraiser to have zero net earnings in 2013.

The entire interview, which also includes former chapter members Donald "Ducky" Birts and Rev. Elisha Morris, is available online.

Mondesire has previously declined requests for comment on the issue in reports by the Inquirer and Axis Philly.

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Conflicts

Former chapter members are seeking a review by the national NAACP of the Philadelphia branch's finances.

- Questions they reportedly seek to answer include why checks to the NAACP were deposited by Next Generation Community Development Corporation, which is run by Mondesire.

Quoted

"It may not have been the smartest thing to do, but it certainly was not illegal." Mondesire

Taking a gander with a pair of Canada geese

Kaori Aoki chases geese along the Schuylkill River on a mild and sunny afternoon in Philadelphia. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Inflation

Minimum wage increase bill introduced

A bill was introduced on Tuesday that would not only end the allowance of a sub-minimum wage for employees who receive tips but also raise the overall minimum wage to $12 an hour.

State Sens. Daylin Leach (D-Montogomery/Delaware) and Mike Stack (D-Philadelphia) introduced S.B. 1317, saying that poverty wages have been putting an impossible burden on working families for too long.

If the bill passes, it would index the minimum wage to inflation each year. Currently, 11 states do it that way. METRO

School attack

Father charged in assault at daughter's school

Police on Tuesday nabbed the man alleged to have assaulted teachers and students at J.Cooke Elementary School last week.

Richard Jordan, 44, was charged with simple assault. His wife, Marion Oliver, 42, and their 14-year-old daughter, a student at the school, were both arrested and charged with assault on Friday.

Richard Jordan / PPD

Police say on the afternoon of March 25, Jordan and Oliver entered J. Cooke and attacked students and teachers. One person reportedly sustained a concussion. No motive has been reported. METRO

Delayed. Pervert trial moved back a week

The "Swiss Cheese Pervert" delayed his trial for another week.

The trial for 42-year-old Christopher Pagano was set to begin Tuesday but was rescheduled for April 10 after he filed for a change in counsel, according to multiple reports.

Pagano, who was arrested in January for his tendency to masturbate in public with processed cheese, was charged by the district attorney's office for harassing four women.

News outlets reported that Mark D. Hauser is the Norristown native's new attorney. METRO

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Man says he was forcibly tattooed by roommates

April Fools'?

Mayfair man says roomies penned obscene, offensive tats on his arms.

Police placed four suspects in custody on Tuesday in connection with reports that a 52-year-old man was forcibly tattooed with obscene words and offensive images, reports say.

Officers from the 15th District reportedly called the Northeast Detectives at 10 a.m. Tuesday after responding to a call from the 52-year-old man at his home on the 3100 block of Brighton Street in Mayfair.

The man told police that on Sunday at about 3 p.m., he was physically restrained and possibly assaulted by "housemates" at his house, police said.

The man was unable to escape the home, reports say.

Three suspects then allegedly used a tattoo gun to permanently write inappropriate words and pictures on both of the man's arms.

At press time police, were obtaining search warrants and had four suspects in custody awaiting possible criminal charges.

Forever

- The permanent tattoos placed on the 52-year-old man's body by the three suspects included derogatory words, slurs and inappropriate pictures, reports say.
- Neighbors on social media said that they believed the alleged victim had lived in the Brighton Street home for years.

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A memorial park for collapse victims

On Tuesday night, the 22nd and Market Memorial Committee unveiled renderings for a memorial park that will be built on the site of the former Salvation Army that collapsed last June, killing six and injuring more than a dozen. / PROVIDED

#MetroPhilly?

SEPTA wants to know what you're reading

SEPTA is celebrating National Library Week, which runs from April 13 to 19, by asking passengers to share what they read when they ride.

Through April 21, riders can submit the books, magazines and newspapers they read during their daily commutes through social media. Three entries will be selected for prizes.

Twitter: @SEPTA_SOCIAL. Facebook: SEPTA page. Instagram: ISEPTAPHILLY. Just tag: #enrichyourride. METRO

Stable condition

Two shot in Olney

Two men were shot in Olney early Tuesday by a gunman who followed them to the 5800 block of North Second Street. The men, 19 and 24, were able to run to the 200 block of Furley Street after they were shot. METRO

Arianna Huffington encourages balance

Go to bed. The woman who lived on four hours of sleep tells others get more.

Arianna Huffington said Tuesday that Americans worry more about the charge of our smartphones and tablets than our own amount of physical energy.

Her message: "Go to bed, and let the smartphone die."

Huffington, president and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post Media Group, spoke to a group at the Hyatt at the Bellevue on South Broad Street.

The event, hosted by the Arts and Business Council of Greater Philadelphia, opened the floor to Huffington to discuss her book: "Thrive: The Third Metric to Redefining Success and Creating a Life of Well-Being, Wisdom, and Wonder."

Huffington, who said she physically burnt out after years of constant work, said to shut off all electronic devices before bed. She said it's important to separate the worker from the work environment or else employees risk similar consequences. "You do your job, you deliver, you don't have to be at your desk 18 hours a day to deliver. That's a delusion."

The event wasn't without irony, as Huffington's new book claims to push Americans toward choosing a job that fosters emotional and physical well-being over high salaries. Critics are quick to point out that the news website she founded — HuffingtonPost.com — doesn't pay some of its bloggers.

Quoted

"If you are expected to be plugged-in after working hours, that's a danger. ... It's important for people to be able to disconnect ..."

Huffington

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Infanticide

Man convicted of lesser charge for baby's death

Joseph Zysk, charged with murder for beating his then-girlfriend's 3-year-old son to death in 2011, was convicted of involuntary manslaughter on Tuesday.

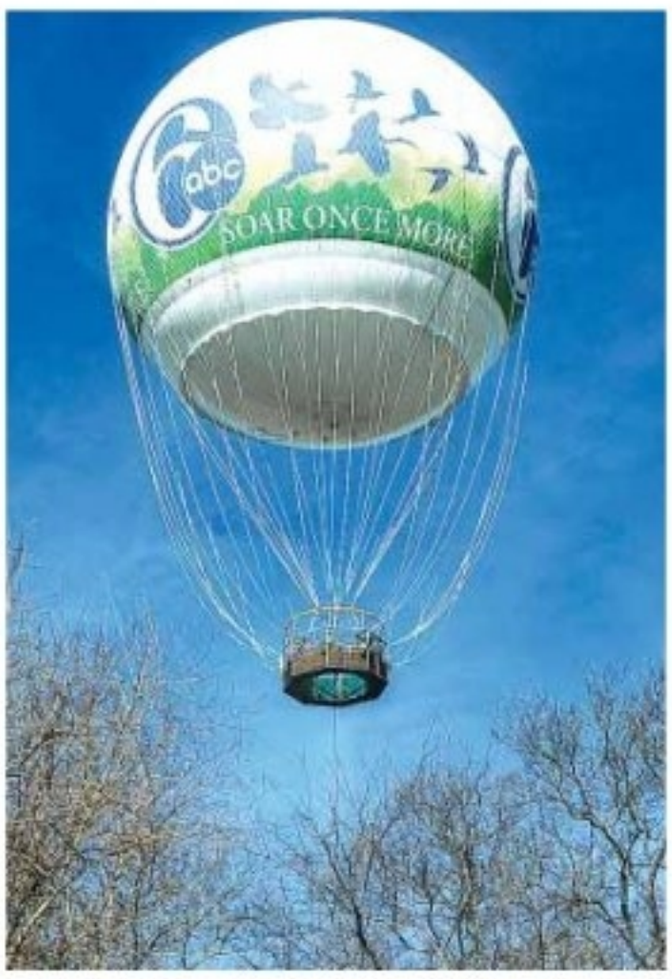
The jury deadlocked on the murder charges. Prosecutors vowed to retry Zysk on the murder charge, reports say. **METRO**

Death sentence

Holocaust survivor charged in hit and run

An 83-year-old Holocaust survivor could face up to 10 years in prison after he hit a bicyclist with his car and fled the scene. The bicycle rider, a 58-year-old man, died shortly after the March 12 accident.

Abraham Chapnick, of Howell Township, N.J., surrendered to police on Monday, according to the county prosecutor's office. **METRO**



Zoo balloon takes flight

The ABC6 balloon at the Philadelphia Zoo is back in the air after being taken out of commission this winter during an ice storm. The new balloon, from England, is the third helium balloon at the zoo since 2002. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

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BEST HOSPITALS U.S.News NATIONAL CANCER 2013-14

140K. Woman's huge collection of news tapes goes online

The fruits of a Philadelphia woman's incredible labor to tape the TV broadcast news every day for 35 years — resulting in more than 140,000 VHS and Betamax tapes — is becoming available online.

Marion Stokes died in 2012 at 83, but San Francisco-based startup Internet Archive contacted her family to inquire about acquiring and digitizing the collection.

Stokes reportedly recorded TV news daily from 1977 to 2012, and also had tapes of "Input," a WCAU show she hosted. Now, digital versions of the shows she recorded are appearing online at the Internet Archive.

One "Input" episode shows Stokes (named Marion Metelitis at that time) discussing social views of mankind and whether humans are really just animals with a group that includes two UPenn professors and a Catholic school teacher. METRO

Ouch

Pa. man gets chainsaw lodged in neck

A Pennsylvania man is expected to recover after a chainsaw stuck into his neck during a tree-trimming accident, according to a report.

James Valentine was harnessed in, working in a tree in Ross Township, Allegheny County when the saw struck him. No major arteries were damaged. METRO

Cherry blossom fest has grown each year

Japanese drummers perform as the 2014 Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival kicked off at Shofuso Japanese house and garden on Tuesday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Flowering. A lineup of events is unveiled for the annual festival.

The eye-catching pink flowers of the Japanese cherry tree is not the only thing to behold during the 2014 Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival. It's a celebration of all things Japanese, from arts and culture to music and food.

Quoted

"We did our first planting of 100 trees at Memorial Hall. ... But only 20 people watched. And now we have thousands."

Teune

This is the 17th festival year for Kazumi Teune, the executive director for the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia.

"The people's interest and knowledge about this festival has grown significantly since year one," she said.

The festival, which starts today and ends on April 13, has a brand new event this year — Karaoke Kickoff, a food, drink and music fueled party at Yakitori Boy in Chinatown. It's being held at 7 this evening. Tickets are on sale.

It culminates with Sakura Sunday on April 13, where drum and dance groups, martial artists, calligraphers, Japanese food vendors and much more will be on hand.

CHRISTINA PACIOLLA
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Demographics

Report finds wide racial disparity in US children's well-being

African-American children's poverty, poor housing and lack of access to education pose a national crisis, said a report released Tuesday that found a wide gap in well-being among U.S. children of different races.

In almost every region of the United States, African-American, Latino and Native American children face far greater barriers to their future success than their white and Asian counterparts, according to the study by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which aims to improve the life of all children.

The "Race for Results" report used 12 indicators and a single composite score to determine a child's chance at future success. REUTERS

Natural disaster

Mudslide survivors consider shrine for disaster site

Survivors of a mudslide that left dozens dead or missing in Washington state said they would like to turn the disaster site into a shrine for the victims once bulldozers clear away the mud and debris.

Rescue teams pressed on for an 11th day on Tuesday in their efforts to find more victims of the slide, triggered when a rain-soaked hillside collapsed above the north fork of the Stillaguamish River. REUTERS

THE SEARCH CONTINUES
GETTY IMAGES

Obamacare enrollment exceeds 7 million target

Politics. Democrats and Republicans are locked in an election-year battle over the future of Obamacare.

Administration officials said on Tuesday the late surge in enrollment helped the program reach 7 million registrants. / GETTY IMAGES

President Barack Obama said the enrollment of 7.1 million people for coverage under his signature health care law serves as a rebuke to its critics, including Republicans who repeatedly have tried to repeal it.

"The Affordable Care Act hasn't completely fixed our long-broken health care system, but this law has made our health care system a lot better," Obama told an audience of administration officials, lawmakers and other supporters in the White House Rose Garden. "The debate over repealing this law is over."

Quoted

"Change is hard. Fixing what's broken is hard. Overcoming skepticism and fear of something new is hard. ... But this law is doing what it's supposed to do."

Obama

The tally of those who signed up for coverage by the midnight close of the open enrollment period doesn't include all figures from 14 separate state exchanges on the final day or people who started the process and weren't able to finish because of website outages or technical difficulties.

The 7 million enrollees matches the initial estimates for insurance sign-ups under the law that were scaled back after technical flaws with the federal website when it went online in October. The Congressional Budget Office in February projected that 6 million people would enroll.

Obama said there will be more stumbles and that all the flaws in the healthcare system haven't been fixed.

He said opponents are criticizing "without offering any plausible alternative."

The law has been under attack by Republicans, who are making dissatisfaction with Obamacare a central part of their congressional campaigns for November's elections. BLOOMBERG

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Decisions. NY student accepted at all eight Ivy League schools

A high school senior on Long Island has been accepted at all eight of the elite Ivy League schools: Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Yale, Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania, he told Reuters between classes on Tuesday.

"I got into my second-to-last school — Yale — and I was just astounded," said Kwasi Enin. "And then Harvard sent me an email and I was just so grateful."

Now it's time for the 17-year-old to decide where to enroll. He said he has all of April to choose a school.

"I think my primary interest now is Yale," Enin said Tuesday, explaining that the financial aid package the New Haven, Conn., school offered is "close" to a full, four-year scholarship. REUTERS

Sources say

New iPhone 6 screens to enter production as early as May

Apple Inc. suppliers will begin mass producing displays as early as May for the next iPhone, expected to be launched this autumn, with a 4.7-inch screen likely to be produced first while a 5.5-inch version could be delayed, supply chain sources said.

Japan Display Inc., Sharp Corp. and South Korea's LG Display Co. Ltd. have all been tapped to make the screens, said the sources. REUTERS

Transcript released of last words from plane

A Japan Coast Guard pilot points to a flight position data screen on board the Japan Coast Guard Gulfstream V aircraft while in the search zone for debris on Tuesday in Perth, Australia. / GETTY IMAGES

Speculation. Malaysia says plane was likely diverted deliberately, probably by a skilled aviator.

The last words from the cockpit of a missing Malaysian jet were a standard "Good night Malaysian three seven zero," Malaysian authorities said, changing their account of the critical last communication from a more casual "All right, good night."

Malaysia on Tuesday released the full transcript of communications between the Boeing 777 and local air traffic control before it dropped from civilian radar in the early hours of March 8 as it flew from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

The correction comes as Malaysian authorities face heavy criticism, particularly from China, for mismanaging the search, now in its fourth fruitless week, and holding back information. Most of the 239 people on board the flight were Chinese.

"There is no indication of anything abnormal in the transcript," Malaysian Acting Transport Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said in the statement, without giving explanation for the changes in the reported last communication.

Malaysia says the plane was likely diverted deliberately, probably by a skilled aviator. REUTERS

Quoted

"The transcript was initially held as part of the police investigation."

Hishammuddin Hussein

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Testimony. GM CEO: Cost factor in ignition fix delay 'disturbing'

General Motors CEO Mary Barra prepares to testify before the full House Energy and Commerce hearing room. / GETTY IMAGES

General Motors CEO Mary Barra, under intense grilling by members of Congress, on Tuesday said she found employee statements "disturbing" that cost considerations may have discouraged the prompt replacement of faulty ignition switches now linked to 13 deaths.

Barra, whose testimony was being delivered under oath before a House Energy and Commerce subcommittee, announced that GM had retained Kenneth Feinberg as a consultant to gauge possible responses to families of those injured or killed in crashes involving the recalled cars.

This was the first time that any GM official has hinted at the possibility of a victims' compensation fund, as many consumer groups and Democrats are urging. REUTERS

Vehicles recalled

2.6M

Since February, GM has recalled 2.6 million vehicles due to concerns about ignition switches that unexpectedly turn off engines during operation and leave air bags, power steering and power brakes inoperable.

Fiscal plan

GOP budget proposes cuts in domestic programs

U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, the leading Republican voice on budget policy, rolled out a new fiscal blueprint that calls for deep cuts in domestic programs, increased defense spending and a goal of erasing annual deficits in 10 years.

Ryan's budget, called the "Path to Prosperity," has almost no chance of passing the Senate but is expected to serve as a campaign manifesto for Republicans in November's congressional elections.

It proposes to kill President Barack Obama's 2010 health care reforms and revive cuts in social programs such as the popular Medicare entitlement for the elderly that Ryan, who chairs the House Budget Committee, has proposed in other recent budgets. REUTERS

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Email Basics Monday, March 31 1:00-2:30 pm	**Email Basics** Tuesday, April 1 1:00-2:30 pm
Applying for Jobs Online Thursday, April 3 1:00-2:30 pm	**Applying for Jobs Online** Wednesday, April 2 1:00-2:30 pm
Introduction to Computers Monday, April 7 1:00-2:30 pm	**Introduction to Computers** Tuesday, April 8 1:00-2:30 pm
Search Engine Basics Thursday, April 10 1:00-2:30 pm	**Search Engine Basics** Wednesday, April 9 1:00-2:30 pm
	Email Basics Tuesday, April 15 1:00-2:30 pm

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Florida-bound

Plane makes emergency landing in Jamaica

Jamaica airport authorities on Tuesday were investigating the emergency landing of a Florida-bound JetBlue airliner that was forced to return to the Caribbean island on Monday night after reports of a smoke odor onboard.

The flight was headed to Fort Lauderdale from Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston but returned to Jamaica 15 minutes after take-off, JetBlue officials said on their website. REUTERS

Defamation

Bombing victim sues Glenn Beck

A Saudi Arabian national who was injured in the bombing attack on last year's Boston Marathon has filed a defamation lawsuit against television commentator Glenn Beck for publicly accusing him of being the "money man" behind the attacks.

Beck, a conservative television and radio personality, repeatedly criticized the federal investigation into the attacks, and in May 2013 claimed that Abdulrahman Alharbi had financed the attacks.

Alharbi had been questioned after the attack but "it was quickly concluded that Mr. Alharbi had no involvement in the attacks," the filing said. REUTERS

GLENN BECK
GETTY IMAGES

Newspaper reports that CIA misled public on interrogation program

On the defense. Some CIA officials have privately described the study as marred by factual errors.

A man holds a poster accusing CIA of torture. /GETTY IMAGES

Confidential

6.3K

The Intelligence Committee is responsible for oversight of the CIA. It completed the 6,300-page draft report on the interrogation program more than a year ago, but it remains classified.

Osama bin Laden
GETTY IMAGES

The Central Intelligence Agency misled the U.S. government and public for years about aspects of its brutal interrogation program, hiding details about harsh treatment of detainees and other issues, the Washington Post reported.

U.S. officials who have seen a Senate Intelligence Committee report on the CIA interrogation program described damning new information about a network of secret detention facilities, also called "black sites," the Washington Post said.

At the "black sites," prisoners were sometimes subjected to harsh interrogation techniques even when analysts were sure they had no more information to give, said the report, which the Post said was based on interviews with current and former U.S. officials.

The files describe previously undisclosed cases of abuse, including the alleged repeated dunking of a terrorism suspect in tanks of ice water at a detention site in Afghanistan. The method bore similarities to waterboarding but never appeared on any Justice Department-approved list of techniques, the Washington Post said.

Officials also said that millions of records show that the CIA's ability to obtain the most valuable intelligence information, including tips that led to locating and killing Osama bin Laden in 2011, had little, if anything, to do with "enhanced interrogation techniques," the newspaper said.

Some CIA officials described the study as marred by errors. REUTERS

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Radiation impact

Families torn as return to Fukushima 'hot zone' begins

People in Japan on Tuesday began their first homecomings in three years to a small area evacuated after the Fukushima disaster, but families are divided as worries about radiation and poor job prospects have kept many away.

The reopening of the Miyakoji area of Tamura, a city 140 miles northeast of Tokyo and inland from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear station, marks a tiny step for Japan as it attempts to recover from the 2011 disasters.

But the event is a major milestone for the 357 registered residents of the district. The trickle of returnees highlights both people's desire to return to the forested hamlet and the difficulty of returning to normal. REUTERS

NATO suspends its work with Russia over crisis in Ukraine

The defense alliance. Russia warned Ukraine against integration with NATO.

NATO suspended all practical cooperation with Russia on Tuesday in protest at its annexation of Crimea, and ordered military planners to draft measures to strengthen its defenses and reassure nervous eastern European countries.

Foreign ministers from the 28-nation, U.S.-led alliance were meeting for the first time since the Russian occupation of Ukraine's Crimea region touched off the worst East-West crisis since the Cold War.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said Russia's actions meant there could be no "business as usual."

Russian soldiers unload military trucks after their arrival at Ostryakovo railway station, some 20 km from the Crimean capital Simferopol. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"At the same time, it is important for everybody in the world to understand the NATO alliance takes seriously this attempt to change borders by use of force."

Kerry

"So today, we are suspending all practical cooperation with Russia, military and civilian," he told a news conference.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said NATO's future relationship with Russia would depend, among other things, on whether Russia started withdrawing troops from the Ukrainian border.

Ministers also ordered military commanders to draw up plans for reinforcing NATO's defenses to shore up confidence among the alliance's eastern European members, including former Soviet republics in the Baltics, that NATO is ready to defend them.

The measures could include sending NATO soldiers and equipment to eastern European allies, holding more exercises, ensuring NATO's rapid reaction force could deploy more quickly, and reviewing NATO's military plans. Military planners will come back with detailed proposals within weeks, a NATO official said.

Secretary of State John Kerry said NATO's preference was for a de-escalation and diplomatic route out of the crisis. REUTERS

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2 CULTURE

Movie news

No Rihanna for Perry

Rihanna is looking to continue her movie career, but it apparently won't be with Tyler Perry — and it's all because of a warning from the late Whitney Houston. "Although Tyler has been courting Rihanna for a year and a half, hoping to build a movie around her, she has rejected the idea," a source tells Radar Online. "Rihanna has pointedly avoided meeting with him." Her reason? Apparently the "Battleship" star had a chance encounter with Houston at a party (before her 2012 death, obviously) and Rihanna took the opportunity to quiz Houston on her thoughts about Perry's work. "Whitney put her off Tyler by warning her bluntly that Tyler's films are for fading black stars, not rising ones," the source explains.

Avril fools, has a great fake brawl with Miley

Our favorite online April Fool's joke came from an unlikely source yesterday: The Instagram account of Avril Lavigne. In a series of photos and one video, the Canadian singer argued with Miley Cyrus and got into a full-on brawl. "Oh hey Miley, I'm actually the most famous person in Canada," Lavigne tells Cyrus, who's reading about the punk singer. Cyrus, wearing a full-on Rasta onesie with a cannabis leaf, retorts, "I may not be Canadian, but I'm the most famous person in Canada!" Fighting ensues!

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
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The gossip behind Josh Elliott's exit from ABC

Is this the last week Josh Elliott will co-anchor "Good Morning America"?

It was announced on Sunday in a rare internal memo that after weeks of intense negotiations, Elliott will be leaving the top-rated morning show to go to NBC Sports.

The scuttlebutt is that Elliot was looking for big bucks — he wanted to take his salary up to around $8 to $10 million from his yearly paycheck of $1 million. ABC was offering him around $5 million, according to reports.

According to TMZ, he was so "disgusted" by the offer (anchor Robin Roberts reportedly pulls in around $14 million) that he decided to take a $2 million cut to go to NBC Sports, who reportedly is only paying him around $3 million. Yes, we said "only." Poor Josh Elliott.

"We have been negotiating with Josh these past several months. In good faith, we worked hard to close a significant gap between our generous offer and his expectations," said Ben Sherwood, the president of ABC News, in a statement. "In the end, Josh felt he deserved a different deal and so he chose a new path."

Amy Robach, who recently underwent a double mastectomy and chemo after being diagnosed with breast cancer, will replace Elliott.

If you are to believe TMZ.com, ABC is pretty happy with the new setup. "He's definitely an abrasive guy," a source told the site about Elliot, with another one stating, "People hated him. He was always just rude."

Talking point

Farrow goes back to Twitter?

Speaking of talk shows, Ronan Farrow, 28, might be looking for a new one.

According to The Daily News, his new talk show is reportedly facing cancellation amid poor ratings.

A "source" told the paper the obvious: "Just because someone is a boy genius-turned-Twitter star doesn't mean they deserve their own TV show."

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CHARLOTTE GAINSBOURG

The "Nymphomaniac" star swears Lars Von Trier is a nice guy.

THE ROUGH STUFF

Charlotte Gainsbourg is the daughter of musician Serge Gainsbourg, with whom she recorded the hit single "Lemon Incest" when she was 13. Lars Von Trier has nothing on him. The actress has starred in all three parts of the director's "Depression Trilogy," including "Antichrist," "Melancholia" and the new "Nymphomaniac," whose second volume comes out Friday. Though she spends most of the film talking in a room with Stellan Skarsgard's recluse — and Stacy Martin handles the younger scenes — she still had to do some of the film's notorious (though sanitized) rough stuff.

You had already done two films with Von Trier before this. Were you even shocked when he asked you to do his sex film?
He told me, in his provocative way, "It's a porn film, but you've never talked as much as you'll talk in my next film." That was the whole summary of the film. He said, "I want the two actors I love the most to be those two characters." So I'm very flattered to be part of his "family troupe."

Was any part of you reluctant?
I was nervous because of the subject, because of the extremeness of it. But I admire [Von Trier] too much to be too cautious. Just before the film started I was losing someone very dear to me, so I said to Lars, "I can't do your film." It was one week before it started. And he said, "You can't do this to me." And then he was so sweet, because he knew how much it was costing me. He was holding my hand throughout the shoot and he was generous and it was very sweet.

Stacy Martin gets the bulk of the heavy stuff in "Volume I," but you take over in "Volume II," when things get bad for your character, Joe. What was that like?
The masochistic part was the most intense for me because it was humiliating — but at the same time exhilarating. That was puzzling for me, to want to be there but at the same time feel so embarrassed. He does put you in bad positions, but he's accompanying you and he's not just observing and making you do stuff and enjoying himself. He's there with you. Sometimes I felt that if I were suffering or going through something painful he was experiencing it with me.

Charlotte Gainsbourg plays a sex addict in Lars Von Trier's "Nymphomaniac." For more on the "Nymphomaniac" saga, blipp here. / GETTY IMAGES

Some of it looks pretty unpleasant.
It's just a film. Of course it's so intense and you believe you're there, in a bad state that lasts for a few minutes. That's why I enjoy it so much. There is a little masochism on my part, I'm sure. I think every actor has it more or less. I've done a comedy and I thought, "What a pleasure, to just have fun." In every film when you have to go through emotional scenes it's suffering. It's part of the deal.

Q&A

Just talk

Was getting to the present day scenes, where you're just talking to Skarsgard, a relief?
Once I had done all the action stuff I thought, "I've done the hardest part, now it's going to be talk, talk." But the talking part was the most difficult. We couldn't use [Von Trier's] usual method. We couldn't shoot in the way he usually shoots [his films], going in all kinds of directions and exploring the dialogue and putting our words into it. We had to get information in, we had to use his words, and it had to be very specific. [Von Trier] also had a hard time with it.

Was it strange essentially doing an entire other movie with just one other actor in a room?
[Skarsgard] was the most wonderful companion to have this complicity with. We were really on the same wavelength and the same difficulties of, very stupidly, remembering lines. It was like being in school — just memorizing. By the end I had the words under the covers trying to hide them everywhere.

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'The way it was supposed to be'

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Homecoming. "I Love College" rapper Asher Roth returns with "RetroHash."

After five years, Asher Roth is set to release his second full-length album, "RetroHash." The rapper, best known for the hit "I Love College," has a new address, a new mind-set and, hopefully, some new hit songs.

Roth's first album, "Asleep in the Bread Aisle," was released in 2009 under the Island Def Jam record label. This second album, however, is largely self-released.

"It was just a matter of finding the right home," Roth says. "No worrying about the marketplace or any trying to get into the head of the consumer that the business tries to do. Just really concentrating on making dope music that I like and that my friends like, and that's it."

Quoted

"I don't think that five years stepped away hurt. More so, if anything, I think it helped me." Roth, on the time between albums

After being mostly absent from the rap scene for five years, Roth says he is excited to complete his long transition and finally release a new album. He has released four mixtapes and stresses that there was never a lull in his creativity.

Roth says that "RetroHash," produced by the Blended Babies, is evidence of his maturation. Living in L.A. helped him grow up and gave his album a feeling of renewal.

"It's different, man," Roth says. "It's definitely me growing up. It's just me being who I am, very freedom-oriented. I'm really excited to share this with the world, kind of let them know who I am."

The album was made in a very laid-back manner.

"It was the way it was supposed to be, man," Roth says. "No sitting around, A&Rs checking me saying, 'You need to do this, you need to do that.' It was literally hanging out in the living room, recording vocals in the living room."

The album got its title, an anagram for Asher Roth, after his girlfriend emailed him a list of anagrams as a joke. "It was just one of those things that was meant to be," says Roth. "[We were] nearing completion of the album and the vibe. It sounds and it feels like 'RetroHash.'"

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Hip-hop artist Asher Roth has a new address, a new mind-set and a new album, "RetroHash," which will drop April 22. / GETTY IMAGES

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Pops take on

Orchestra. The brass players' lips are swollen from fast-paced movie scores.

A ride in a Rebel Alliance starfighter just wouldn't be the same without the music of John Williams crescendo-ing behind it.

The Philly Pops, with conductor Michael Krajewski at the helm, will present "The Magical Music of John Williams" this weekend at the Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall.

While Williams' music is a thrilling complement to the intergalactic battles of the "Star Wars" movies, he's actually rooted in old Hollywood.

"He comes from the old school of the great composers of the '30s and '40s, those guys who wrote for symphony orchestras, and they wrote these big, lush, romantic orchestral scores," Krajewski says. "So he continues to write [that] music, which is becoming rare at the movies.

"Fortunately for those of us who love orchestral music, he's written so much great music for the symphony."

Williams, 82, started working in Hollywood as a piano player in the late 1950s. Early in his career, he composed scores for B-movies and TV shows like "Gilligan's Island," but his stock soared when he wrote the scores for "Jaws" in 1975, and then "Star Wars" in 1977.

Now, it's rare when a blockbuster doesn't have his music. The Philly Pops will play selections from "Star Wars," "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Harry Potter," "Jurassic Park" and "Schindler's List."

"Not to diminish his talent one bit, but a lot of his success has to do with being at the right place at right time," Krajewski says. "Getting linked up as the composer for 'Star Wars' when 'Star Wars' was becoming such a huge hit, it seems like then, once you've done that as a film composer, all of a sudden you're in demand.

"He's been able to rise to the occasion."

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'Fast and furious'

Technical difficulties

John Williams' music is not easy to play, Krajewski says.

"For the strings he writes a lot of fast and furious notes and a lot of continuous playing and a lot of technically difficult music," Krajewski says.

"He writes a lot for the brass, and they're not accustomed to having to play for so long and so sustained. They come away with lips swollen and hanging out and the string players are kind of cross-eyed from looking at the pages full of notes."

But it should be worth it for the audience at least, the conductor adds: "When you listen to the music for the music's sake and hear it live, that's where you gain a whole new appreciation for how effective and how moving the music is."

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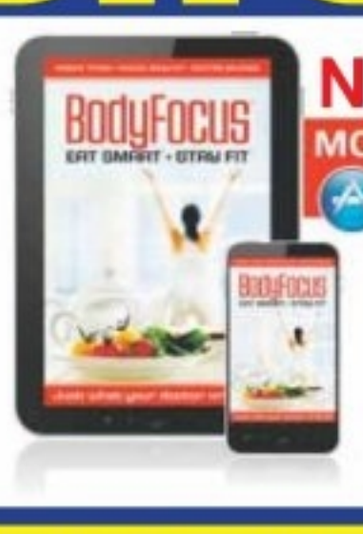

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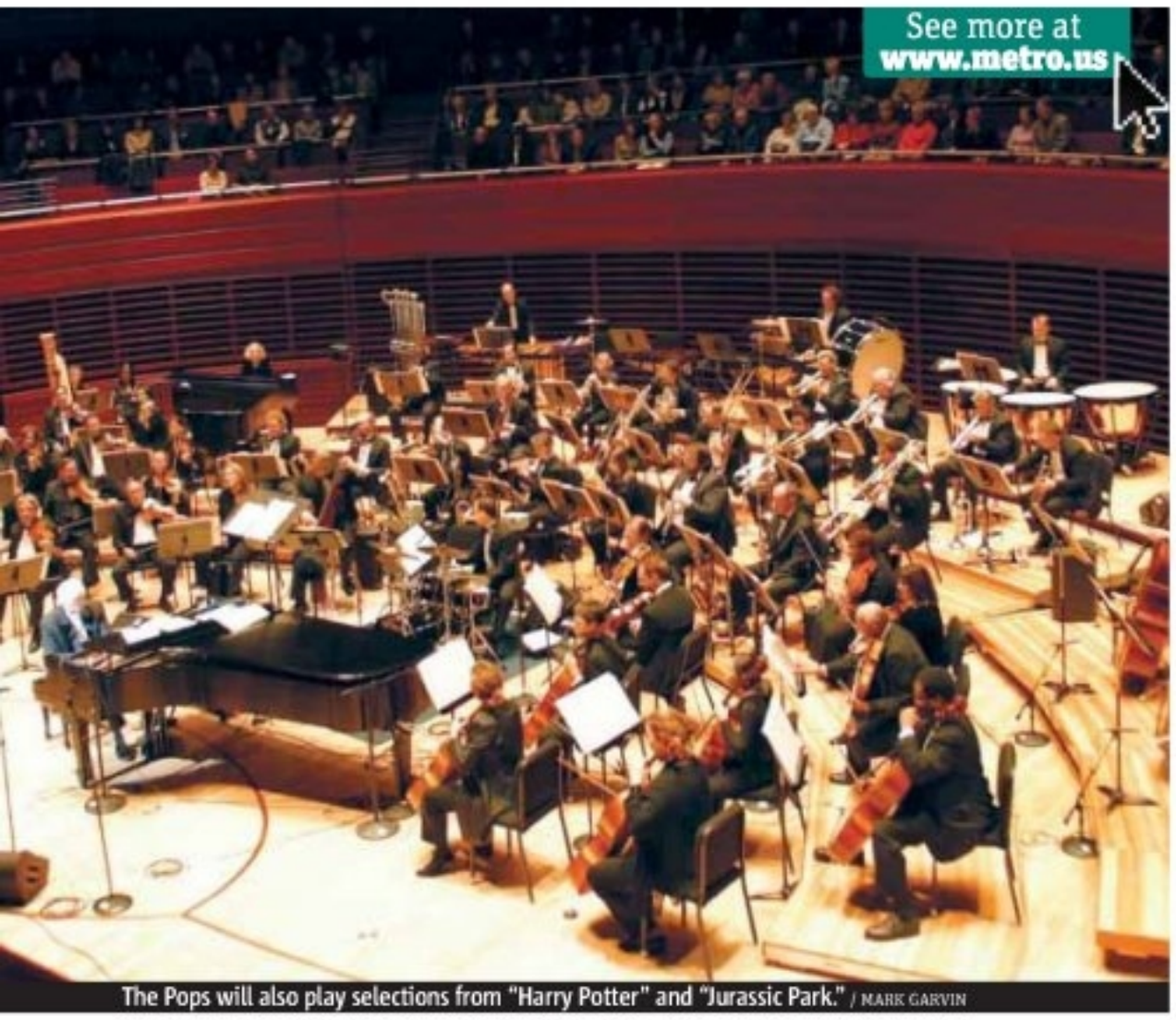

The Pops will also play selections from “Harry Potter” and “Jurassic Park.” / MARK GARVIN

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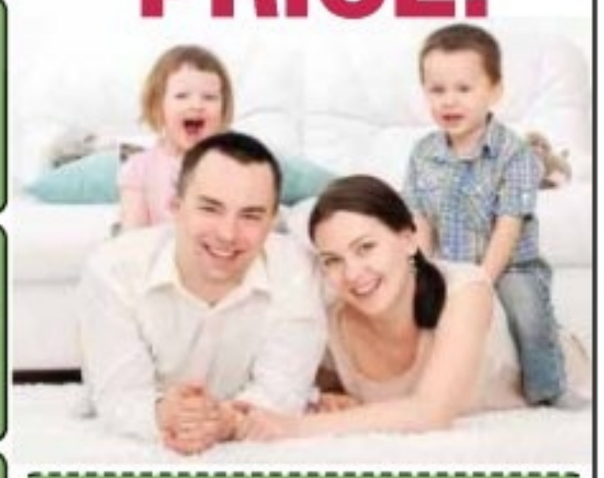

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New coach. Pharrell Williams gets 'Happy' for 'The Voice'

Pharrell Williams, the R&B singer of the hit song "Happy" and a music producer, will join NBC's singing contest "The Voice" as a coach for its seventh season in the fall, the network said Monday.

Williams, 40, will be replacing longtime judge CeeLo Green, who left the show for other ventures with the Comcast Corp-owned network.

Williams is expected to join country singer Blake Shelton, Maroon 5 front-man Adam Levine and pop singer Christina Aguilera on the Season 7 panel.

The producer has seen his star rise in the last year as a performer on Robin Thicke's smash hit "Blurred Lines" and Daft Punk's Grammy-winning disco track "Get Lucky." Williams was also nominated for an Oscar for "Happy," the lead song from the "Despicable Me 2" animated film for which he composed the music.

But will he wear a hat on the show? / FILMMAGIC

Williams has also carved out a niche as an arbiter of urban style, with such fashions as a tuxedo jacket with shorts at this year's Oscars and a giant brown hat at the Grammys.

"The Voice," which averages about 13.8 million viewers per episode, has outpaced its Fox rival "American Idol" this season by about 3 million viewers per episode.

The show's celebrity panel of judges has been credited with helping it rise in the ratings against "American Idol." It is also considered a top spot within the music industry to promote songs, such as Maroon 5 and Aguilera's "Moves Like Jagger," which became a hit in 2011 after the singers performed it on the show.

The spring panel consists of Shelton and Levine with R&B singer Usher and Colombian pop singer Shakira. **REUTERS**

TV watch list

Comedy

'TripTank'

The animated comedy series premieres on Comedy Central tonight. Tune in for a sketch about a "suicidal chicken interrupting a wedding," among other delights. **COMEDY CENTRAL, 10:30 P.M.**

Drama

'The Americans'

Your favorite show about sympathizing with the Soviets is back with another new episode. If only Joe McCarthy could see us now! **FX, 10 P.M.**

'TRIPTANK'
COMEDY CENTRAL

Drama

'Arrow'

Tensions are high, as usual, for Oliver Queen in both his business and his personal life — and by "personal life" we mean secret superhero quest. Can he and his spectacular abs save the day? **CW, 9 P.M.**

Reality

'Survivor: Cagayan'

Fact: There are more seasons of "Survivor" than there are stars in the night sky, but Machiavellian maneuvering never gets old. **CBS 8 P.M.**

LISA WEIDENFELD

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Design on a budget

Decor. HomePolish makes interior designers accessible, even to the Ikea set.

Need a hand picking out bedding, paint colors and more?

HomePolish's experts can help you select art to create the perfect gallery wall.

Creating a Pinterest-worthy home takes work. There's reclaimed wood to source, a gallery wall to hang, bar carts to obsess over — if only you had an interior designer best friend to help analyze paint swatches and light fixtures.

Thanks to HomePolish, guidance from an expert is now within reach. The startup connects style-conscious renovators with young, talented interior designers — most from top design firms — without the extraordinary price tag usually associated with the service.

Here's how: The process starts with a $50 at-home consultation with a designer who matches the client's style. During the one-hour meeting, the designer provides tips and ideas. Then, it's up to the client to decide whether or not to sign up for additional services, which go for a flat hourly rate of either $100 or $130.

"The idea of HomePolish is that everyone needs to have access to a designer — even if you only have $50," says co-founder/interior designer Noa Santos. "During the first consult, we make sure that our designers give as much information as possible, so that if they can't afford working with them, they can go do it themselves."

Why invest in a designer?
You spend so much time in your home, it's a place you want to be happy. It's a place where you want to have that spot to curl up with a glass of wine. It's a place that you want to be proud enough to invite friends over. We see that when people pay close attention to the way they live they become more organized and happier in general.

How is HomePolish so affordable?
We don't charge markups or commissions. We don't want there to be any incentive for a designer to come into your home and tell you to buy new things so they can make money. If a client can only afford the initial consultation, we're giving you real advice [during that time]. So if someone signs up and says 'Hey, I want to pick paint colors' during the meeting, our designer will come with a paint book.

TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us

Bonus question

CO-FOUNDER NOA SANTOS IS ALSO AN INTERIOR DESIGNER.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF HOMEPOLISH

Who is the HomePolish client?

"They're the savvy client who's not afraid to invest in a home, but also doesn't want to be taken for a ride.

Our demographic is typically late 20s to late 40s, people who are ready to take the next step from having a home that is just a hodgepodge of furniture. Something that is particularly exciting is that a good chunk of our clients are actually renters."

PLUS

Free advice

Map your home

"Map your home to how you actually want to live versus how you think it should be laid out," says Santos. He suggests choosing furniture that really caters to your lifestyle. In his apartment, Santos skipped a dining table for a great bar cart and lots of seating. "I don't sit down and eat dinner," he says. "I go out or I have people over for cocktails."

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Are you interested in starting your own business but looking for the perfect venue? Look no further! The Ogontz Avenue Revitalization Corporation (OARC), has several affordable commercial properties for rent in West Oak Lane. These properties are located in areas with a high volume of foot traffic and close to public transportation, shopping, and various restaurants. Several properties also include off-street parking. We have spaces available ranging from 650 sq. ft. to 3500 sq. ft. and rents ranging from $1000 to $3500 a month. To schedule a private viewing of the property, call **OARC Property Management** at **215-549-9462.**

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If you go

Greensgrow West open house

April 5, 2-4 p.m.
4912 Baltimore Ave.

Old West Philly had a farm

Neighbors can now stock up on farm fresh goods at Greensgrow West. / BRYN ASHBURN

The Kensington location is still going strong. / JESSICA KOURKOUNIS

Fresh. Greensgrow opens its second location Thursday.

The budding trend of local, fresh, farm-to-table food in Philly has blossomed into a full-blown way of life. One popular sustainable resource is Greensgrow Farms, started in Kensington in 1997 by co-founders Mary Seton Corboy and Tom Sereduk.

What began as a humble hydroponic lettuce farm grew into a much larger nonprofit, with a mobile business plan that brings food beyond Greensgrow's immediate neighborhood and into Camden and West Philly. On April 3, Greensgrow will officially open the doors to its second brick-and-mortar location, at 4912 Baltimore Ave., the former home of Elena's Soul Lounge.

"With West Philly we want to extend the main farm model out to other neighborhoods, to places that lack access to Greensgrow," says program director Ryan Kuck. That model includes not only selling greens, but also hosting educational farming workshops and opening the space to the community for events.

A business like this, along with what Kuck describes as "using underutilized spaces for active use," can make a big difference in a community — something Jennifer Foster, site manager of the new location, has already witnessed with Greensgrow West.

"I have a bit of an outsider view since I don't live in West Philly," Foster says. "But it's been great to be there and set up. I see how the community is reacting and it's already positive. People are asking when we're going to open and how they can be involved or volunteer. It's already becoming a part of the community."

To properly introduce themselves and their initiative to the neighborhood, the Greensgrow West crew is hosting an open house April 5. "It's citywide cleanup day, so it's perfect," says Foster. "We want to have conversations with people in the neighborhood, invite them in to see the space, and make everyone aware of our presence. It'll be a great opportunity because people will be in the mood for spring."

JULIA WEST
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Quoted

"Our goal is to be a long-term fixture. We want to provide a resource of knowledge of horticulture and growing. We're trying to give the community something they seem to not have such immediate access to."

Jennifer Foster, on Greensgrow West

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Three spring essentials for women, according to Joseph Altuzarra: an Oxford shirt, a button-down skirt and a pair of mules. / SIMON CAVE

4 Things you didn't know about Joseph Altuzarra

Need to know. Fashion designer Joseph Altuzarra is full of surprises, just like his clothes.

Joseph Altuzarra's designs are downright sizzling, with va-va-voom lace-up velvet-and-leather sheaths and skirts slit up to there. So it's a little funny to find out that he started his insouciant, sexy label for … his mom.

"Twenty years ago, if you were a 55- or 60-year-old woman you were confined to wearing your Chanel tweed suit," he explains. "But I was witnessing through my mother that women in their 50s and 60s still want to be seductive and sexy."

Here, a few more surprises:

He took ballet for nine years

Altuzarra not only studied dance from the time he was 5 until he turned 14, he credits it with sparking his interest in clothing. "My earliest fashion memory is going to the ballet when I was 5 or 6," he tells us. "The most exciting thing was going backstage and seeing the costumes. There was a piece of tulle lying on the ground, and I took it with me. I still have it in a scrapbook somewhere."

He was born in Paris but prefers the States

And he doesn't think American women are hopelessly frumpy in comparison. "French women can learn from Americans' ease and pragmatism," he says. "And American women wear a lot more prints. I love that."

Paying his dues

He didn't study fashion

Altuzarra actually majored in art history at Swarthmore College, outside of Philadelphia. "It was sort of through art history that I became really interested in fashion imagery," he says. He learned design on the job, first as an intern at Marc Jacobs, then apprenticing with a patternmaker before moving back to Paris to work at Givenchy. "I know they had asked an intern to alphabetically organize the résumés," he says when asked how he snagged the Jacobs job. "So I was at the top of the pile and was the first one called."

He canceled his first appointment with Anna Wintour

When Altuzarra launched his label in 2008, he got a rare opportunity to show his first collection to Anna Wintour. One problem: "I was flying back from Paris with a suitcase full of my first collection … which got lost the day before I was supposed to meet her." He had to call and postpone, but met up with the famed Vogue editor a week later. "I was totally terrified."

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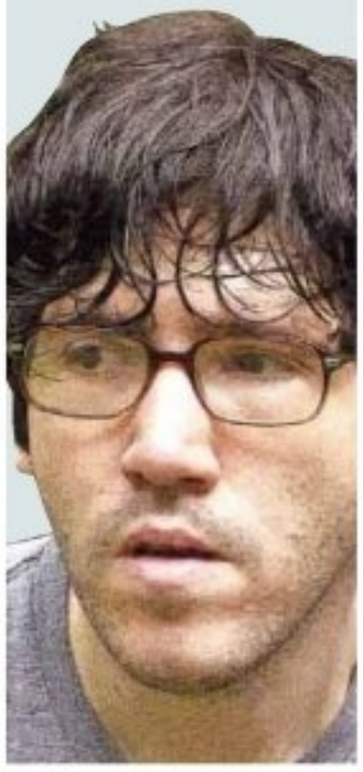

'SOUTH PARK' GETS ITS OWN FIGHTING GAME

Turn-based RPGs are the bread and butter of video games. And bread and butter are comforting, filling — and occasionally accused of being boring and stale. But come on! Bread rules. Butter rules. Turn-based RPGs rule. Let's review some recent releases.

Randy and Stan Marsh get in on the action in the game "South Park: The Stick of Truth." / UBISOFT

'Final Fantasy X/X2 HD'

System: PS3/Vita
Maker: Square Enix

It's July 2001. People are listening to bands with strange names like Train and Lifehouse, and watching Oscar-worthy performances in "Scary Movie 2." People are also playing a lot of "Final Fantasy X" on PS2. The 10th in the series was a huge hit, selling almost seven million copies.

Now it's back! Square Enix has put together a polished HD remastering of the original, along with its sequel. If you loved FFX back in the day, you'll love this. It looks great, and they didn't skimp on modern accoutrements (trophies, touch-screen integration, etc.) New players will also fall in love. It's classic turn-based FF. The voice acting still sucks though.

'South Park: The Stick of Truth'

System: Xbox 360/PS3
Maker: Ubisoft

Ever wanted to play an interactive, 20-hour episode of "South Park"? Of course you have. "South Park: The Stick of Truth" is not only a fantastically lewd and creative video game, it's a fine episode of television.

It looks, sounds and feels exactly like an episode of "South Park." The gameplay, however, is straight-up RPG. You wander around town and fight myriad enemies, including homeless drunkards, Nazi zombie dogs and, of course, Al Gore. The writing and voice work are so strong that it's as much fun to watch as it is to play. About the only knock you can give it is a lack of replay value. Once you find everything, that's pretty much it.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author.

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Streaming. Amazon Instant may become free (with lots of ads)

For those of you with an Amazon Prime subscription, the associated video streaming service is a nice perk. It has plenty of movies and television shows, most of which aren't on rivals Netflix and Hulu Plus. But Amazon Prime also costs $99 a year.

Us cheapskates may soon be in luck. The Wall Street Journal reports that not only will Amazon release its own set-top box to rival Apple TV next week, it will also introduce a free video streaming site.

Amazon's free streaming service will likely have plenty of ads. / AMAZON

The Journal suggests the streaming service will be ad-supported, so prepare for Geico commercials.

Of course, the big question is what will be available on this free service. One assumes Amazon's original programming would be included, but it's unclear what will happen with movies and previously released TV shows. LAWRENCE BONK

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When spring cleaning, don't forget the pantry

Eat right. Learn what to toss when overhauling your cabinet.

You don't need to get fancy glass jars for everything — but you should try to group like items. / POLKA DOT

This year, don't just wipe the windows and scrub the shower — start developing better eating habits by adding the pantry to your spring cleaning list.

"[The pantry] is a great place to refresh, see what's in there, and make sure that everything is current and that there are healthy options," says registered dietitian Sharon Richter.

Expired foods are an obvious target for cleaning, but making sure that the other food in the cupboard is healthy can also lead to better eating. Removing foods with high fructose corn syrup, hydrogenated oils and MSG should be a spring cleaning goal.

"I always say, look at the ingredients and see what's in there," Richter says.

With bad foods gone, healthier options can take their place. Richter recommends foods like wholegrain cereals and dried fruit with no added sugar.

"I'm big into the raw nuts," Richter says. "Pistachios are great because they take a long time to eat, instead of just shoving a handful in your mouth."

She also recommends portion-controlled snacks "so when you open the cabinet, you've got something to grab."

But don't just throw those new foods anywhere. Richter says placing nutritious options right up front makes healthy eating easier. "Have those grab-and-go things right in the front," Richter says. "Put the things that might be a little less healthy, like the cookies, in the back so they're not what your eye sees."

Also, being organized might trick your brain into eating right.

"Try and categorize things so it's not such a mess," Richter says. "Like, put all your cereals together. When it looks more appealing, you're more likely to go back and use it."

This can lead to new ways of snacking.

"You might have forgotten, 'Oh, I have couscous, that's an option I can make,'" Richter says.

Best of all, starting at the pantry opens up even more avenues of spring-cleaning.

"Don't just go to your cabinets," Richter says. "Also go to your freezer and look at what's there. Putting ice cream not in the forefront, maybe having healthier options, getting rid of meats that have freezer burn [can all help]."

With these tips, you'll be spring cleaning your way to a healthier you.

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Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Do your research before you make any personal changes. Don't be disappointed if others don't share your goals.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Some personal relationships are due for a change. If you are being pressured, separate yourself from those who don't have your best interests at heart.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Follow your instincts when dealing with money. Luck and opportunity will enable you to make some lucrative changes.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Be firm in your beliefs. Those who care for you will be in your corner. Ignore anyone who tries to talk you out of something.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Keep your business dealings professional. Don't risk your career by getting romantically involved with a co-worker.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Put your moneymaking ideas to good use. You can make improvements to your business plans if you keep your emotions out of the equation.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Seek advice from trusted friends before signing a contract. You could face consequences if you don't have correct information.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Well-meaning friends may try to lead you down a different path. Remember that you are responsible for your future.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Someone will try to take credit for your ideas. Be careful to keep your plans a secret until you know who is on your side and who is not.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. A relationship with someone is likely to bewilder you. Take time to examine your feelings and to consider motives.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. Fight depression and make positive improvements in order to relieve stress. You cannot force others to see things your way.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Use your creative abilities to make your projects stand out. Let your personality shine and you will reap sweet rewards.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

8						6		4
	1		5	2		9		
	4						1	7
				4		1	2	9
		1				3		
2	8	6		3				
7	6						9	
		2		6	8		7	
9		8						2

	9	6					1	
		3		9				
5				6		2	3	
	1		9	3			2	8
			2		1			
3	2			5	6		9	
	6	9		1				3
				8		9		
	7					6	5	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

Puzzling way to start school day

The crosswords are so much fun. I love going into my ninth grade homeroom every morning figuring out a new puzzle — it's so intriguing! Whoever makes these puzzles, bravo! Keep them coming and make them harder every day!

TELIA STEVENS, VIA EMAIL

We need care, not insurance

Plain and simple: We need more health care, not more insurance. The Affordable Care Act is not going to solve the health care crisis in the U.S. Health care will still be unaffordable because of high premiums, co-payments, deductibles and out-of-pocket-costs, just as it was before this act. The insurance companies will continue to make enormous profits with an increasingly complex bureaucracy, mountains of paperwork and million-dollar salaries for their directors. The Affordable Care Act is not positive reform and cannot control costs. It is long, confusing and so complicated that I don't think anyone has been able to read and understand the entire act. Our health care system is still broken and people are suffering and dying.

MARIA TERMINI, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Online

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Crossword

Across

1 Rains ice pellets
6 Gather leaves
10 Sen. — Glenn
14 Adventurer — Quatermain
15 Mr. Trebek
16 Kind of rug
17 Chili pepper dip
18 "Holy cow!"
19 Show appreciation
20 Theatrical
22 Sedgwick of film
23 Unfrequented
24 Actress -- Hagen
26 Pollen-bearers
30 Outstanding
34 Surfer slang
35 Finely sharpened
36 Baton Rouge sch.
37 Stoltz or Clapton
38 Request urgently
40 Dit partners
41 Vane dir.
42 Gull's perch
43 Night sky streaker
44 Nutty confections
46 Where Dresden is
48 Trendy meat
49 Casino city
50 Board imperfection
53 Conspicuous
59 Jumps on one foot
60 Soup du —
61 Laconic
62— spumante
63 Seine tributary
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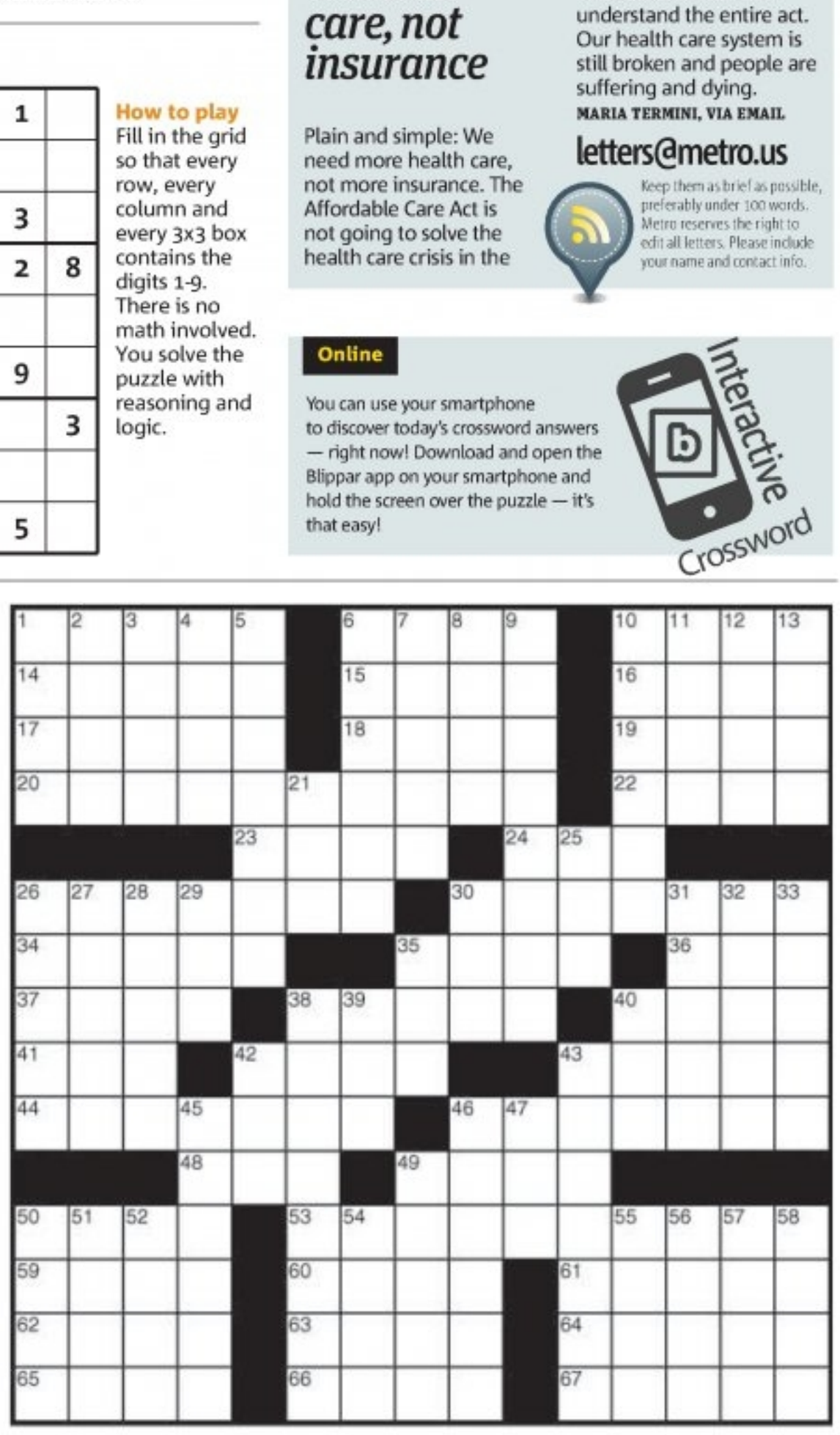

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Union gives Wheeler new role on defense

MLS. Aaron Wheeler is showing leadership and confidence as a center back.

Part of coach John Hackworth's plan this offseason was to transform one of the many talented players on the Union's young roster, Aaron Wheeler, into a center back — a position that Wheeler hadn't played on the professional level before.

When starting center back Austin Berry went down with a hamstring injury a little more than two weeks ago, Hackworth called upon Wheeler to take his place in the starting lineup and the results have been very promising.

"Aaron is first and foremost a soccer player, and he can play any position," said teammate Amobi Okugo. "Last year he did great as a forward and right now is filling in at center back and he is doing admirably."

In a 1-1 draw against the Montreal Impact last Saturday, Wheeler played a full 90 minutes of sound defense on the muddy field at PPL Park. His play got him a spot on the Week 4 MLS Team of the Week.

"I don't want people to look at me as a converted forward," said Wheeler. "I want people to judge me how they judge the other center backs in the league. I want to be judged as a center back because that's the position that I am playing. I don't need any soft critics. I am just going out there and trying to do things to the best of my ability."

With Berry possibly returning to action as soon as this weekend, Hackworth is stuck with a decision to make. Will he ride the hot hand in Wheeler again, or will he insert Berry — the 2012 MLS Rookie of the Year?

One thing's for certain, Wheeler's not going to let up an ounce of energy on the pitch.

"I don't want to be known down the road as the guy who came in and played a couple of good games," said Wheeler. "I want to be known as the guy who plays hard and stayed consistent through the season … I have so much more to show. I'm looking forward to taking that next step."

The Union (1-1-2) head to Chicago (0-1-3) Saturday to take on the Fire. The game will air at 5 p.m. on Comcast SportsNet.

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Berry happy returns

Berry nearing return to roster

Austin Berry could return to the starting lineup this weekend against his former team the Chicago Fire.

Berry was traded to the Union in February for an undisclosed amount of draft allocation money. Last season, Berry was one of just three MLS field players to play in every possible minute of every game (3,060). Berry injured his right hamstring on March 15 in a game against the New England Revolution. JEFF MCMENAMIN

Aaron Wheeler is valuable to the Union as a versatile player. / GETTY IMAGES

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NBA power rankings | by James Toscano

No. 1

Spurs (58-16)

Make it 18 straight wins for this dynasty and annual powerhouse. Every single year they find themselves at the top of the Western Conference standings and after a blowout win in Indiana on Monday, it looks like that'll be the case again when the regular season wraps up at the end of this month. Tony Parker had 22 points in the big victory over the Pacers.

No. 2

Thunder (54-19)

What's the best way to watch the team in front of you in the standings lose? By beating yourself. The Thunder can do just that to the Spurs Thursday.

No. 3

Clippers (53-22)

Whether it's Blake Griffin, Jamal Crawford, J.J. Redick or Danny Granger injured, the Clips just can't stay healthy and are undermanned.

No. 4

Heat (51-22)

The Heat are back in the position they've grown so fond of over the last three seasons, the top of the East. They've got six of their final nine at home.

No. 5

Rockets (49-23)

The Rockets are dealing with injuries to Dwight Howard and Patrick Beverley. Beverley's injury won't require surgery.

No. 6

Pacers (52-23)

The Pacers woke up Tuesday morning to find themselves in second place in the Eastern Conference behind the Heat. Sorry guys, it's not an April Fools joke.

No. 7

Warriors (45-28)

It sounds crazy to think about, but there really is a chance the Warriors could actually miss the playoffs if they lose some games down the stretch. Dallas, Memphis, and Phoenix continue to win.

No. 8

Blazers (48-27)

LaMarcus Aldridge returned to the court three games ago with the Blazers struggling after a three-game losing streak. Since he's returned they've won three in a row.

No. 9

Bulls (42-32)

The Bulls are officially the team that nobody in the East wants to play in once the postseason begins. The Pacers hope they can to avoid them in the second round somehow.

No. 10

Suns (44-30)

Come on Phoenix, if you want to make the playoffs you can't be losing to the Lakers. It's that simple. The Suns are 8-2 in their last 10.

No. 11

Grizzlies (44-30)

The last two games of the Grizzlies' season are against the Suns and Mavericks. Well done, schedule maker person.

No. 12

Raptors (42-32)

The Raptors have two tough tests this week at home against the Rockets and Pacers, but finish the season with six games against non-playoff teams.

No. 13

Mavs (44-30)

There are nine teams in the West fighting for eight spots, and unfortunately it's probably going to be Dallas, Memphis, or Phoenix on the outside looking in. It could come down to the final game, too.

No. 14

Nets (39-33)

The Nets are 12-4 in their last 16 games, all without Kevin Garnett. Garnett will miss his 17th straight game Tuesday night vs. the Rockets. Jason Kidd has found success with a small lineup out there.

No. 15

Wizards (38-36)

Head coach Randy Wittman called his team "selfish" after blowing a big lead to the Bobcats and failing to clinch a playoff berth. They'll still make the playoffs, but they have to clean that up.

James Anderson and the Sixers look like a different team. / GETTY IMAGES

Confident 76ers look to finish strong

NBA. The 76ers hope they play like a different team during the season's last month.

The 76ers got their win this weekend. And Monday night in Atlanta it appeared the team was about to get another one.

But after the team blew a double-digit lead, the playoff hungry Hawks finished on a 14-3 run down the stretch to seize a 103-95 decision and make the Sixers look like their old selves once again.

"It's 92-92 and we come out of a timeout and do a poor job executing," Brown said. "They go down and score and from that point forward we were playing catch-up. Just trying to take a young team and say, 'Here it is. It's tied at 92 and you're playing against a team that is scratching and clawing trying to get into the playoffs. It's a fantastic opportunity to bring a game home. How do we execute?'"

Although they let the Hawks get the best of them in the last three minutes Monday, the Sixers are right back in action with another game against a playoff hopeful Wednesday at home against the Bobcats.

Charlotte has a little more wiggle room than Atlanta, holding the No. 7 spot in the East as of Tuesday and a few games of separation with the Hawks.

The young squad is led by young guards Gerald Henderson and Gerald Wallace. In two games against the Bobcats this season the Sixers are 1-1, having edged the squad 95-92 at the Wells Fargo Center in January.

With eight games remaining for the Sixers, while many other teams are jockeying for playoff positioning, Philadelphia will continue to attempt to grow and develop heading into this summer's important NBA Draft.

And even though they won't be playing for a postseason berth or to end a historic streak, Brown knows the city will support his team as the season winds down.

"I've learned that this city does have patience," Brown said this weekend after the Sixers beat the Pistons. "I'm proud of the city."

EVAN MACY
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Streak by the numbers

- **26** Consecutive loses for the 76ers, tied for the longest streak in pro sports
- **18** Consecutive home losses by the 76ers prior to Saturday's win
- **20** Total number of different Sixers to suit up during the losing streak
- **59** Number of days between the Sixers' two most recent wins
- **25** Margin of victory in the Sixers win over the Pistons last weekend
- **8** Games remaining for the Sixers this season, most of these against teams with winning records
- **2** Number of games the Sixers lead the Bucks by in the standings, leaving Milwaukee with the NBA's worst record and best chance at the No. 1 pick
- **−444** Combined point differential for the Sixers during the losing streak

Henry Sims / GETTY IMAGES

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Streak ends

Howard bats in fifth spot

Phillies have always assumed, when healthy, that Ryan Howard bats cleanup. But a streak of 665 consecutive games batting in the four-hole ended when Ryne Sandberg batted fifth against the Rangers to split up the lefties Tuesday. METRO

Moving on

Abreu signs minor-league deal with Mets

After spending all of spring training with the Phillies, former Philadelphia slugger Bobby Abreu agreed to a minor-league contract with the Mets Tuesday. He will report to Triple-A Las Vegas. METRO

Bobby Abreu / GETTY IMAGES

Hardware for Giroux

Giroux named NHL Third Star of Month

Claude Giroux led the entire NHL in assists (15) and points (21) in the month of March, helping the Flyers to a 9-3-2 mark in that span. He was named the Third Star of the Month Tuesday. METRO

The Masters. Woods will not compete at Augusta due to back

The biggest name in golf will miss its biggest event.

Tiger Woods announced on Twitter Tuesday that he will miss the 2014 Masters after undergoing surgery on a pinched nerve in his back.

"Sad to say I'm missing the Masters. Thanks to the fans for so many kind wishes," the message read.

Woods has been battling back problems the last few months and pulled out of the Honda Classic in early March in the middle of the fourth round.

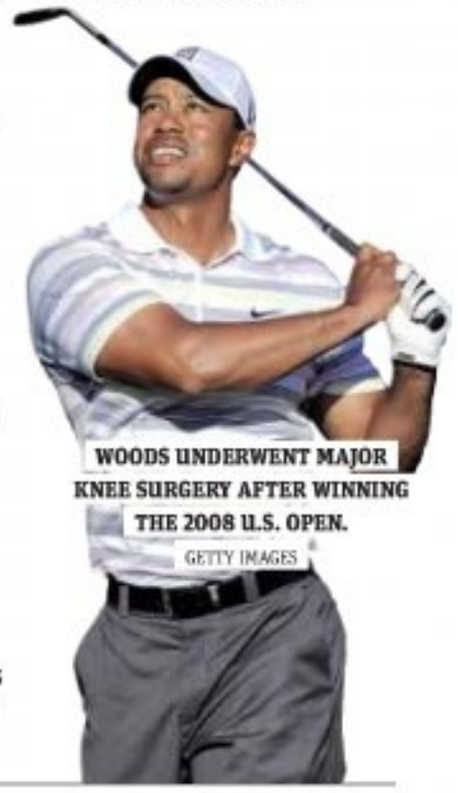
He played a week later, but aggravated the injury.

"After attempting to get ready for the Masters, and failing to make the necessary progress, I decided, in consultation with my doctors, to have this procedure done," Woods said in a statement. "I'd like to express my disappointment to the Augusta National membership, staff, volunteers and patrons that I will not be at the Masters. It's a week that's very special to me. It also looks like I'll be forced to miss several upcoming tournaments to focus on my rehabilitation and getting healthy."

Woods can begin training again in three weeks, but it looks likely he could miss a few months.

He is a four-time winner of the Masters, most recently in 2005. He has not won a major since 2008 when he limped his way to win the U.S. Open.

Woods underwent major knee surgery not long after winning that event. MARK OSBORNE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The SOLSTICE study is evaluating an investigational drug to see if it is safe and how well it works to manage endometriosis pain.

If you are 18 to 49 years old with moderate to severe endometriosis pain, you may be eligible to participate. The study may last up to approximately 20 months and involve about 14 study visits. Study participation is voluntary.

Solstice

To learn more, visit
www.SolsticeEndoResearch.com,
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We are looking for people:
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- with major depressive disorder
- who have not responded well to at least one antidepressant treatment in their current depressive episode

Study-related medications and procedures will be provided at no cost. To find out more, please contact us using the information provided below.

Contact details: **1.866.367.7491**

COMPASS

The ARIA study is for women who are HIV+ and are ready to start treatment

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- Have not taken medication for HIV for more than 10 days
- Are not pregnant or planning to get pregnant within the next year

Aria

If you participate in the study, you will have to take medication once a day for 48 weeks and visit or contact the study center every 4 to 6 weeks for tests and evaluations to check your health.

To see if the study is an option for you, visit

University of Pennsylvania
HIV Clinical Trials Unit
Contact: Joe Quinn or Aleshia Thomas
Phone: 215-349-8091

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Wednesday, April 2, 2014

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